

**Articulation Agreement  
Grand Valley State University  
College of Health Professions Physician Assistant Program  
And  
Northwestern Michigan College**

Grand Valley State University College of Health Professions (“GVSU”) and Northwestern Michigan College (“NMC”) agree to establish an Articulation Agreement (“Agreement”) in which qualified NMC students shall be granted preferred admission to the GVSU Physician Assistant Program (“Program”). This agreement shall be effective upon final signatures by the administrators and institutional representatives at both GVSU and NMC.

Preference for admission to the Program will be given to a minimum of two qualified NMC students who meet all Program admissions criteria noted below and on the Program [website](#), and demonstrate an interest in practicing medicine in northern Michigan.

**Program Eligibility:**

To be eligible for non-competitive admission to the Program, NMC students shall have:

1. Met all admission requirements.
2. Completed an application through the Centralized Application Service for Physician Assistants (CASPA) prior to the application deadline as noted on the Program [website](#). Applications must include: a) GVSU supplemental form, b) minimum of two CASPA recommendation rubrics, c) official GRE test scores, d) GVSU \$30 application fee, and e) all official college transcripts.
3. Have earned a minimum overall grade point average, Program pre-requisite grade point average and last 60 credit hour grade point average of 3.5. See Program [website](#) for further details regarding grade point averages. No grade below a “C” is acceptable for pre-requisite coursework.
4. Completed the GRE prior to the application deadline. Students who apply through this articulation agreement are required to score at or above the 40<sup>th</sup> percentile in all three categories (analytical writing, verbal reasoning, and quantitative reasoning). GRE test scores are valid for five years after the testing date.
5. Have earned a minimum of 30 undergraduate credits at NMC.
6. Completed a minimum of 1000 hours of significant volunteer and/or work and/or observational hours in a health care environment. Hands on patient care activities are strongly encouraged. This information will be documented on the CASPA application. Refer to Program [website](#) for additional details
7. For international students, Submit an official TOEFL (Test of English as a Foreign Language), IELTS (International English Language Testing System), MELAB (Michigan English Language Assessment Battery), or PTE Academic (Pearson Test of English Academic) score reports if English is not the student’s first language. The minimum TOEFL score is 80 Internet-based; minimum IELTS score is 6.5, the minimum MELAB score is 77, and the minimum PTE Academic score is 53. Original score reports must be submitted.

**Institutional Requirements:**

GVSU agrees to:

1. Provide NMC documentation of pre-requisite coursework via the Program [website](#).

2. Make reasonable efforts to assist NMC to attract and retain students in sufficient numbers to meet the terms of this Agreement; which at the direction of NMC may include GVSU participation in NMC sponsored events for new student recruitment and orientation programming.
3. Serve as a resource for NMC faculty, advisors and students to provide career counseling and advising regarding the Physician Assistant profession and GVSU's Physician Assistant Program.
4. Conduct periodic campus visits and/or co-host receptions at NMC as requested.
5. Review application materials for all NMC students who have met all the Program admission requirements.
6. Offer invitations to interview with the Program to all NMC students who meet eligibility criteria.
7. Offer Program admission to a minimum of two (2) NMC students who meet eligibility criteria and score above the minimum required interview score.
8. Provide opportunities through campus visits or other acceptable methods to interested students, faculty and staff to learn more about the Program.
9. Market the Program to potential pre-Physician Assistant students with NMC.
10. Provide timely notice to NMC of any Program changes that may impact this Agreement including, but not limited to; change in the Program's ARC-PA accreditation status, change in the affiliation and/or accreditation status of GVSU with the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools/Commission on Institutions of Higher Education.

NMC agrees to:

1. Offer on a regular basis, all pre-requisite courses for the Program as identified by GVSU. Students enrolled and declared in these courses will be accommodated and given reasonable opportunity to register for all required courses so that they may meet Program conditions.
2. Provide advance notice to GVSU of changes to previously identified pre-requisite course(s) to allow review and confirmation that revised courses will continue to meet Program requirements.
3. Make reasonable efforts to recruit a sufficient number of students to meet the terms of this Agreement.
4. Provide career counseling and advising activities that include information about the Physician Assistant profession in a manner that is similar to other pre-health profession advising.
5. Market the Program to potential pre-Physician Assistant students at NMC.
6. Provide timely notice to GVSU of any Program changes that may impact this Agreement including, but not limited to; decline in admission standards, changes in institutional grading practices and standards, changes in graduation requirements, or change in the affiliation or accreditation status of NMC with the Higher Learning Commission.
7. If requested by GVSU, assist the Program by providing information regarding this articulation agreement to the Program's accrediting agency, Accreditation Review Commission on Education for the Physician Assistant (ARC-PA).

**NMC students who are offered and choose to accept GVSU's admission offer to the Program must:**

1. Meet all pre-matriculation requirements in place for their year of matriculation.
2. Maintain an overall grade point average of 3.00 or higher after the admissions decision and prior to matriculation.

**Agreement Review:** Representatives of both institutions will review the Agreement as needed. The Agreement may be suspended or revoked upon written request by either institution with sixty (60) days advance notice to Dr. Jean Nagelkerk, Vice Provost for Health (GVSU) or Dr. Marguerite Cotto, Vice President for Lifelong and Professional Learning (NMC).